Amendment and Response

Applicants: Garland L. Segner et al.

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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 23, line 2 (the abstract) with the following rewritten paragraph:

The invention provides a A guide wire comprising an elongate, flexible core having a proximal region, a proximal end, a distal region, and a distal end, and the distal region having a tapered portion; a plurality of wire strands wrapped helically parallel to one another and disposed on at least a portion of the tapered distal region of the core; a polymer tie layer disposed on at least a portion of the plurality of wire strands; and a lubricious polymer layer disposed on the polymer tie layer.